

RADIO SHOW -- Tuberculosis

I'm Dr. Howard Rodenberg, state health director with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and this is the Healthy Kansas Minute.

Tuberculosis, or TB, is caused by bacteria that usually attack the lungs, but can infect almost any part of the body. TB can be spread through the air from one person to another.

Some people develop active TB disease soon after becoming infected. Active TB disease happens when the immune system cannot slow the bacteria down. People with active TB disease can be treated and cured if they seek medical help in time.

Some people who become infected with TB develop latent TB infection, do not feel sick and cannot spread TB to others. However, some people with latent TB infection can develop active TB disease years later. A simple skin test by your doctor can determine if you have latent TB infection. People with latent TB infection can take medicine to stop it.

To learn more about health in Kansas, please visit www.healthykansas.org. That's www.healthykansas.org. This has been the Healthy Kansas Minute!